

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-153. Canceled.

154. (New) A method of delivering a beneficial substance to a subject comprising the steps of:

(a) implanting a silicon implant into a human or animal, the implant comprising: a first silicon barrier region, a second silicon barrier region, a first beneficial substance payload located in a first payload area, and a second beneficial substance payload located in a second payload area;

(b) allowing the first barrier region to erode; and

(c) allowing the second barrier region to erode;

steps (b) and (c) being performed such that the release of the first beneficial substance from the first payload area, and the release of the second beneficial substance from the second payload area is sequential.

155. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein the silicon implant comprises three or more barrier regions.

156. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein the first barrier region comprises porous silicon and/or polycrystalline silicon.

157. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein the second barrier region comprises porous silicon and/or polycrystalline silicon.

158. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein in steps (b) and (c) the first beneficial substance is released before the second barrier region is eroded sufficiently to allow the second beneficial substance to be released.

159. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein the second barrier region erodes over a period of greater than one month.

160. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein the first and second beneficial substances comprise the same drug.

161. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein the first beneficial substance and/or the second beneficial substance comprises an element of the periodic table.

162. (New) A method according to claim 154 wherein first payload area is adjacent to the first barrier region, and wherein the second barrier region is adjacent to the second payload area.